sector in so far as creation of employment in the Indian economy is concerned;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the liberalisation of the economy is causing obstacles for the future growth of small scale industries; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure the survival and growth of this employment generating sector of the economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government has constantly been reviewing the impact of liberalisation and is of the view that this will help this sector to grow at faster rate. Government however, is also aware of the apprehensions expressed from various quarters on the adverse impact of liberalisation. With this end in view, the policy of reservation is being continued, fiscal concessions have been enhanced and to make SSI units more competitive, Government is providing support for modernisation, assistance for quality upgradation, etc. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri P. R. Nayak, former Dy. Governor of RBI was constituted to examine the adequacy of institutional credit and related aspects. The Committee has submitted its report in Sept., 1992. RBI has already announced its acceptance of most of the recommendations.

No-Industry District in Bihar

2027. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of 'no Industry' districts in Bihar at present;

(b) what are the reasons for the non-industrialisation of these districts of the state; and

(c) what action Government propose to take for establishing industries in no industry districts of the State in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) There are six (6) "No Industry Districts" in the State of Bihar, namely, Aurangabad, Bhojpur, Khagaria, Nalanda, Purnea and Saharsa (including newly carved out district of Madhepura).

(b) and (c) Industrialisation of an area is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government to the extent possible.

Leather industry in Bihar

2028. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Bihar is an ideal State for the development of leather industry;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the number of leather goods manufacturing units which are operational in the State at present and what is their average annual production with details of actual production during the last three years; and

(d) what action Government propose to take for the development of leather industry in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Bihar offers a good potential for development of leather industry. The total availability of cattle hides in the country as per the Central Leather Research Institute, Madras 1987 census is 373.96 lakh pieces out of which Bihar accounts for 37.01 lakh pieces.